

# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
10/721,180	11/26/2003	Jong Chul Bang	K-0585	6620	
34610 KED & ASSO	7590 05/15/2007 CIATES, LLP		EXAMINER		
P.O. Box 221200			PERRIN, JOSEPH L		
Chantilly, VA	20153-1200		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
			1746	· ·	
			<del></del>		
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE	
			05/15/2007	PAPER	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

		•				
		Application No.	Applicant(s)			
Office A.A O		10/721,180	BANG, JONG CHUL			
	Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit			
		Joseph L. Perrin, Ph.D.	1746			
Period fo	The MAILING DATE of this communication app or Reply	ears on the cover sheet wi	th the correspondence address	7=		
WHIC - Exter after - If NO - Failu Any	ORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY CHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.11 SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. Operiod for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period or re to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing and patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).	ATE OF THIS COMMUNIC 36(a). In no event, however, may a re vill apply and will expire SIX (6) MON'. . cause the application to become AB	CATION.  pply be timely filed  THS from the mailing date of this communication.  ANDONED (35 U.S.C. & 133)			
Status						
1)	Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 M	arch 2007				
	This action is <b>FINAL</b> . 2b) This action is non-final.					
3)	Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is					
	closed in accordance with the practice under E					
Dispositi	on of Claims					
4)⊠	Claim(s) 21-49 is/are pending in the application	٦.				
	4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdraw					
	Claim(s) is/are allowed.					
	Claim(s) is/are rejected.					
	Claim(s) is/are objected to.					
8)⊠	Claim(s) <u>21-49</u> are subject to restriction and/or	election requirement.				
Applicati	on Papers					
9)	The specification is objected to by the Examine	r.				
10)	The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a)☐ acce	epted or b) objected to t	by the Examiner.			
	Applicant may not request that any objection to the					
44)[	Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correct					
11)[	The oath or declaration is objected to by the Ex	aminer. Note the attached	Office Action or form PTO-152.			
Priority u	ınder 35 U.S.C. § 119					
_	Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign ☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:		119(a)-(d) or (f).			
	1. Certified copies of the priority documents					
	2. Certified copies of the priority documents	•				
	3. Copies of the certified copies of the prior application from the International Bureau		received in this National Stage			
* S	See the attached detailed Office action for a list	` ` ' ' '	received			
_	The second detailed of the detail for a list	e. a.o ooranica copies not i				
Attachmen						
1)  Notic 2)  Notic	e of References Cited (PTO-892) e of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	4) LI Interview Si	ummary (PTO-413) /Mail Date			
3) 🔲 Inforr	nation Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) r No(s)/Mail Date		formal Patent Application			
-		· <del></del>				

## Page 2

### **DETAILED ACTION**

#### Examiner's Comments

1. Applicant's cancellation of the previous claims 1-20 and introduction of new claims 21-49 has resulted in a restriction requirement between the combination and subcombination as set forth below.

### Election/Restrictions

- 2. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
  - I. Claims 21-36, drawn to a washing machine, classified in class 068, subclass 12.24.
  - 11. Claims 37-49, drawn to a brake resistance assembly, classified in class 318, subclass 254.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

3. Inventions I and II are related as combination and subcombination. Inventions in this relationship are distinct if it can be shown that (1) the combination as claimed does not require the particulars of the subcombination as claimed for patentability, and (2) that the subcombination has utility by itself or in other combinations (MPEP § 806.05(c)). In the instant case, the combination as claimed does not require the particulars of the subcombination as claimed because the combination as claimed does not require the particulars of the subcombination such as the configuration of first and second partitions. The subcombination has separate utility such as for use in other

Application/Control Number: 10/721,180

Art Unit: 1746

electric motors, for instance, in other rotary systems such as dryers (the intended use of "for a washing machine" in the preamble is not afforded patentable weight in the subcombination).

Page 3

- 4. The examiner has required restriction between combination and subcombination inventions. Where applicant elects a subcombination, and claims thereto are subsequently found allowable, any claim(s) depending from or otherwise requiring all the limitations of the allowable subcombination will be examined for patentability in accordance with 37 CFR 1.104. See MPEP § 821.04(a). Applicant is advised that if any claim presented in a continuation or divisional application is anticipated by, or includes all the limitations of, a claim that is allowable in the present application, such claim may be subject to provisional statutory and/or nonstatutory double patenting rejections over the claims of the instant application.
- 5. Restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper because all these inventions listed in this action are independent or distinct for the reasons given above and there would be a serious search and examination burden if restriction were not required because one or more of the following reasons apply:
  - (a) the inventions have acquired a separate status in the art in view of their different classification;
  - (b) the inventions have acquired a separate status in the art due to their recognized divergent subject matter;
  - (c) the inventions require a different field of search (for example, searching different classes/subclasses or electronic resources, or employing different search queries);
  - (d) the prior art applicable to one invention would not likely be applicable to another invention;
  - (e) the inventions are likely to raise different non-prior art issues under 35 U.S.C. 101 and/or 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph.

- Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete <u>must</u> include (i) an election of a invention to be examined even though the requirement may be traversed (37 CFR 1.143) and (ii) identification of the claims encompassing the elected invention.
- 7. The election of an invention may be made with or without traverse. To reserve a right to petition, the election must be made with traverse. If the reply does not distinctly and specifically point out supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election shall be treated as an election without traverse. Traversal must be presented at the time of election in order to be considered timely. Failure to timely traverse the requirement will result in the loss of right to petition under 37 CFR 1.144. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which of these claims are readable on the elected invention.
- 8. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which of these claims are readable upon the elected invention.
- 9. Should applicant traverse on the ground that the inventions are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the inventions to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.
- 10. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include (i) an election of a species or invention to be examined even though the

Art Unit: 1746

requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143) and (ii) identification of the claims encompassing the elected invention.

- 11. The election of an invention or species may be made with or without traverse. To reserve a right to petition, the election must be made with traverse. If the reply does not distinctly and specifically point out supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election shall be treated as an election without traverse.
- 12. Should applicant traverse on the ground that the inventions or species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the inventions or species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C.103(a) of the other invention.
- 13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joseph L. Perrin, Ph.D. whose telephone number is (571)272-1305. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:00-4:30, except alternate Fridays.
- 14. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael E. Barr can be reached on (571)272-1414. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.
- 15. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Art Unit: 1746

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or \$71-272-1000.

Joseph L. Perrin, Ph.D. Primary Examiner

Art Unit 1746

JLP